



## 1999 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 35

March 18, 1999 – Introduced by Representatives MORRIS-TATUM, YOUNG, WILLIAMS, TURNER, COGGS, FREESE, PLOUFF, REYNOLDS, POCAN, BLACK and J. LEHMAN, cosponsored by Senators GEORGE, BURKE and DARLING. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** establishing a sister-state relationship with the Dakar Region of  
2           Senegal.

3           Whereas, the continent of Africa has been recognized as an economic and  
4     educational development opportunity for export expansion for the State of Wisconsin  
5     and the nation; and

6           Whereas, according to a report of the Governor's Wisconsin International Trade  
7     Council Taskforce on How to Create a Global Generation in Wisconsin, the increase  
8     of the number of sister-city and sister-state partnerships is integral to Wisconsin  
9     in meeting the national average of formal sister-state relationships. To achieve our  
10    potential from this type of educational, economic and cultural experience, Wisconsin  
11    would need to partner with 11 more international jurisdictions; and

12           Whereas, African American residents of Wisconsin are developing trade,  
13    commerce and cultural ties with the Senegalese people; and

14           Whereas, Goree Island, which is located in the Dakar Region of Senegal, was  
15    the debarkation point for African slaves bound for American shores, which makes it

1 extremely likely that there are African Americans currently residing in Wisconsin  
2 who are descendants of people from that region; and

3       Whereas, a sister-state relationship would benefit both Wisconsin and the  
4 Dakar Region of Senegal by facilitating an exchange of information and ideas, by  
5 promoting trade, economic development and travel between the 2 regions and by  
6 increasing educational exchange programs between them; now, therefore, be it

7       ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the  
8 Wisconsin legislature encourage this state's executive branch to establish a  
9 sister-state relationship between Wisconsin and the Dakar Region of Senegal.

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(END)